

Message Text

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ORIGIN MMS-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-25 EA-11 SCA-01 PER-05 ABF-01

TRSE-00 SS-20 SCSE-00 SPC-03 RSC-01 /071 R

DRAFTED BY M/MS:RGMAYS,JR.
APPROVED BY M/MS:RGMAYS, JR.
EUR/EX - MR. WIGGINS (DRAFT)
EA/EX - MR. CHAMPAGNE (DRAFT)
SCA - MISS PANIZZA (SUBS)
DG/PER - MR. BISHTON (SUBS)
FRM/FM - MR. SMITH (SUBS)
IRS - MR. CHRISTY (DRAFT)

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R 172033Z DEC 73
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY ROME

UNCLAS STATE 245877

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS:OGEN, CASC, CA, JA, GW, IT

SUBJECT: OPRED - PROPOSAL TO EXPAND OVERSEAS STAFF OF
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE.

1. CITING EXPANSION OF US TRADE AND INVESTMENT IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES, INCLUDING AMERICAN OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL OF FOREIGN CORPORATIONS, PLUS CONTINUING SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN NUMBER OF AMERICANS LIVING ABROAD, TREASURY DEPT. IS REQUESTING AUTHORIZATION TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF OVERSEAS OFFICES AND PERSONNEL OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE.

2. BASIC PURPOSES OF PROPOSED INCREASE ARE: (A) TO PROVIDE NEEDED TAX INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE TO THE ROUGHLY 340,000 AMERICAN HEADS OF HOUSEHOLD RESIDING ABROAD AND APPROXIMATELY 40,000 FOREIGN CORPORATIONS CONTROLLED OR INFLUENCED BY
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U.S. INTERESTS WORLDWIDE.

(B) TO COVER SOME LARGE AREAS CURRENTLY RECEIVING NO COVERAGE, RAISE THE RATIO OF IRS PERSONNEL TO AMERICANS RESIDING ABROAD, AND RELATE THE STAFF SIZE OF EACH OVERSEAS OFFICE TO ITS CASELOAD.

(C) TO OVERCOME THE SERIOUS AND GROWING NON-COMPLIANCE SITUATION IN WHICH NEARLY 50 PERCENT OF AMERICAN CITIZENS ABROAD CURRENTLY FILE NO RETURNS, AND FAULTY REPORTING OF TAXABLE INCOME IN AN INCREASINGLY SERIOUS PROBLEM.

COLLATERAL INVESTIGATIONS ACTIVITIES.

(E) TO FACILITATE SETTLEMENT OF CASES INVOLVING APPLICATION OF FOREIGN TAX LAWS AND TAX TREATIES TO U.S. CITIZENS ABROAD AND, CONVERSELY, APPLICATION OF U.S. LAWS AND TAX TREATIES TO FOREIGN NATIONALS.

3. ONE PHASE OF STAFF EXPANSION PROPOSAL CALLS FOR ESTABLISHING ADDITIONAL POSITIONS AT ADDRESSEE POSTS AS FOLLOWS:

OTTAWA - TWO ASSISTANT REVENUE SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES (RSR).

TOKYO - ONE ASSISTANT REVENUE SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE.

BONN - ONE ASSISTANT REVENUE SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE

ROME - ONE ASSISTANT REVENUE SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE

(BROAD PROPOSAL ALSO CALLS FOR SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTION IN TERRITORY TO BE COVERED OUT OF ROME).

ADDITIONS WOULD RAISE IRS AUTHORIZED COMPLEMENT AT EACH ADDRESSEE MISSION TO THREE OFFICERS, ONE CLERK.

4. ACTION REQUESTED. COMMENTS BY CHIEF OF MISSION, INCLUDING ANY IMPACT ON MISSION ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT CAPABILITIES. RUSH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE245877
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RGMAYS,JR.
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731220/aaaaaoql.tel
Line Count: 95
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN MMS
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kelleyw0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21-Sep-2001 by thomasv0>; APPROVED <18 MAR 2002 by kelleyw0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OPRED - PROPOSAL TO EXPAND OVERSEAS STAFF OF INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE.
TAGS: OGEN, CASC, CA, JA, GE, IT
To: OTTAWA MULTIPLE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005